NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program
Metadata Training & Outreach Project
Interim Project Summary

Grant Award # 05HQPA0007
Interim Report

List: Category 1: Metadata Training & Outreach Program
Organization: Westchester County, New York, http://giswww.westchestergov.com
Project Leader: Sam Wear, (914) 995-3042, stw1@westchestergov.com
Metadata Trainer: Ana Hiraldo, (914) 995-4416, aeh2@westchestergov.com

Project Narrative

Westchester County has been recognized as a leader in developing and advocating GIS technology throughout government in southeastern New York State. Central to this effort has been the county's proactive outreach in establishing GIS capacity in local governments (villages, towns, and cities). Our mission to provide GIS services training and education to our local governments is consistent with 2005 CAP Category 1: Metadata training and outreach assistance. Our first goal is to developed web mapping services for the *Village of Hastings-on-Hudson*, *Town\Village of Mamaroneck* and *City of Mt. Vernon* utilizing county existing hardware and software environment, and making it available through the Geospatial One Stop (GOS) gateway. Thus, enhancing government efficiency and improving citizen services. The GOS gateway makes it easier, faster and less expensive for all levels of government and the public to access geospatial information. Local governments have realized the cost savings by collaborating with the county in establishing internet mapping program rather than building their own program using their limited resources. Our second goal is to promote metadata training and education as it becomes a standard operating practice throughout the county. Many of our local governments are beginning to develop their own GIS programs using ArcGIS and know very little about data development and how to protect their investment. By providing metadata training users will have a better knowledge of the importance of data sharing and the preservation data over time. This would also allow them to provide and have broader access to various datasets critical towards building the National Spatial Data Infrastructure.

Metadata training and outreach assistance

Our first metadata training, under this program, was held December 20th at the Westchester County Data Training Center in downtown White Plains. Invitations were send out to our general mailing list and announcements were posted online and in our December 2005 issue of our newsletter (see attached). Several local governments representatives responded and registered for the course others are schedule to attend our next training in February 2006.

Attendees:

- Elizabeth Paul   Town of Mamaroneck 740 W. Boston Post Rd.   Mamaroneck 10543
  (914) 381-7845   conservationdept@townofmamaroneck.org

- David Goessl   Town of Mamaroneck   740 W. Boston Post Rd.   Mamaroneck   10543
  (914) 381-7845   townengineer@townofmamaroneck.org

- Robert Yamuder   Village of Mamaroneck   123 Mamaroneck Avenue Mamaroneck 10543
  (914) 777-7703   ryamuder@villageofmamaroneck.org

- Larry Schopfer   Village of Irvington   85 Main Street Irvington 10533
  (914) 591-8604   lschopfer@irvington.gov

- Dan O'Connor, P.E.   Village of Croton-on-Hudson 1 Van Wyck Street Croton-on-Hudson 10520
  (914) 271-4783   doconnor@crotononhudson-ny.gov

- Rashmi D. Mehta   City of New Rochelle   515 North Avenue   New Rochelle   10801
  (914) 654-2138   rmehta@ci.new-rochelle.ny.us

Having a small group worked better for us since most of our trainees are new to the concept of metadata and GIS technology. This allowed us to spend more time conducting practical metadata exercises.

Status of Metadata Service

- Metadata for Westchester County is being served through the Geospatial One-Stop. Local governments are encouraged to do the same.
- Westchester County metadata is currently being served at http://gos2.geodata.gov/wps/portal/gos.

Next Steps

- Conduct 3 additional metadata training sections
  - Tentative schedule: February 21st, May 23rd, and July 25th 2006
- Deployment of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson ArcIMS application (February 2006)
- Develop ArcIMS applications for Town\Village of Mamaroneck (April 2006) and City of Mt. Vernon (June 2006).
- **Observations: We required more software:** It would have been a good idea to ask ESRI to provide a one-day license of ArcCalatog for users to use in the training. This would allow us to practice with the students on how to fill out metadata forms as opposed to showing slide shows.
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Feedback on Cooperative Agreements Program

- What are the program strengths and weaknesses?
  - Strengths: Provide lots of information and materials.
  - Weaknesses: We would like to have a "train the trainers" workshop in our area to find out new techniques and innovative ways to provide training.
- Where does the program make a difference?

- o Provide us with the assistance needed to promote metadata which would otherwise not be done.
- Was the assistance you received sufficient or effective?
  - o FGDC and make some improvements by providing additional train the trainers workshop. We can improve by standardizing on a teacher's manual (to be written by FGDC experts in the matter) to make sure trainers cover all the bases.
- What would you recommend doing differently?
  - o See above
- Are there factors that are missing or need to consider that were missed?
  - o For metadata creators using ArcCatalog, FGDC could make arrangements with ESRI to generate a strip-down version or ArcCatalog with all metadata tools to use for training.
- Are there program management concerns that need to be addressed? Time frame?
  - o No. Time frame is fare.
- If you were to do this again, what would you do differently?
  - o If we were to apply for another grant we would include the cost of acquiring additional one-day software licenses for the use of ESRI ArcCatalog metadata tools.

G E O G R A P H I C
I N F O R M A T I O N
S Y S T E M S

FGDC Grant Awarded to Westchester County GIS

Federal funding will advance local government web mapping programs

Westchester County GIS has recently been selected as one of 36 national organizations or public agencies to receive a 2005 Cooperative Agreement Program (CAP) grant administered through the Federal Geographic Data Committee (*www.fgdc.gov*). The highly competitive grant program will enable the county to assist three municipalities in the county including the City of Mt. Vernon, Town of Mamaroneck (including the incorporated villages of Larchmont and Mamaroneck), and the Village of Hastings towards building "localized" web mapping programs. By partnering with and leveraging the county's existing GIS and web mapping architecture, the proposed program will provide each of the three municipalities with significant cost savings as opposed to building web mapping programs solely with local resources and funding.

Built on top of Environmental System Research Institute (*www.esri.com*) indus-try- leading ArcIMS internet mapping technology, each web mapping portal will have similar user interfaces and functionality providing access to a wide range of county GIS datasets. Local spatial datasets developed by the municipality such as tax parcel data, can also be incorporated into the application at the discretion of each local government. Users will be able to view/identify, perform general ad hoc queries, add/remove layers, geocode single address locations, and create 8x11 maps on a wide range of environmental, demographic, planimetric, cultural, and facility data using a predefined map template. Access to each of the web mapping portals will be through individual local government websites.

One of the highlights of this collaborative program will be in expanding national web exposure for each municipality through registration with the Geospatial One-Stop (GOS) which is an online tool for combin-ing thousands of geospatial resources from federal, state, local, and private sources. Upon completion of the project, the Google-driven search engines integrated with the GOS portal (*www.geodata.gov*) will harvest metadata records for both the spatial datasets and newly created web mapping service for each municipality.

Finally, the grant program will also include metadata training (*www.fgdc.gov/metadata/meta_stand.html*) at four locations throughout the county over the next 12 months. Dates, times and exact locations of the metadata training, which will be provided free of charge, will be posted on the county's GIS web site. The first training session is scheduled for December 20th in downtown White Plains. For more information on the 2005 CAP grant program or information on metadata training sessions, visit the county's GIS website at *http://giswww.westchestergov.com* or contact Ana Hiraldo at (914) 995-4416.

The FGDC grant will enable the county to leverage and redesign its generalized web mapping application (mapping Westchester County) to support community-specific mapping programs in Mt. Vernon, Mamaroneck, and Hastings.

New GIS Publication highlights Westchester County GIS

Westchester County GIS has recently been featured in a new GIS book produced by the International City/County Association and the ESRI Press. Entitled "*The GIS Guide for Local Government Officials,*" the book highlights case studies and examples on how GIS technology assists local government officials in decision making and coordinating resources. Westchester County is highlighted in an article "*Data Sharing in Westchester County*" which describes development of the countywide GIS Data Sharing Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) and the cost savings associated with intergovernmental data sharing. To order a copy of the book visit *http://bookstore.icma.org*.

Westchester gov.com

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Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Westchester County Geographic Information Systems (GIS) develops, maintains and distributes digital data for Westchester County, New York. County GIS staff support GIS applications and programs in both county and local governments.
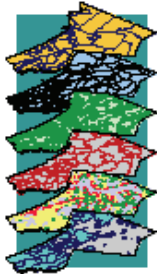
Events:

Metadata Training - December 20, 2005
Location: 150 Grand Street - Time: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
For information contact Ana Hiraldo at (914) 995-4416.

Explore the Westchester County GIS:

- Mapping Westchester County
- Citizen's Volunteer Monitoring Program
- Hardcopy Maps
- Data
- Local Government GIS
- Newsletters
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Metadata Online Announcement

389 Items   All folders are up to date.   Connected

start   Inbox - Microsoft Out...   Index - Microsoft Int...   1:24 PM

Ana Hiraldo
at Doctor's Office Hours
During the New York State
GIS Conference
October 17, 2005
answering questions
related to metadata,
available training and
programs.

Sam Wear
GOS Presentation at
New York State GIS Conference
October 18, 2005